PMGSY in Gujarat

*147. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that funds for the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) are given to the States from the collection of cess levied on diesel;

(b) the amount of such collection from Gujarat during the last three years; year-wise;

(c) the amount of disbursement to that State from this fund during the same period, year-wise; and

(d) whether it is a fact that this disbursement is not based of tax collection from diesel consumed in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is funded through cess on High Speed Diesel and loan/credit from World Bank and Asian Development Bank. It has also been decided to open a separate window in NABARD, with a corpus of Rs. 4,000 crore during 2006-07, to augment the funding for PMGSY.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Finance, which monitors the accruals to the Central Road Fund, has reported that data on revenue realization is not collected and compiled State-wise. Normative allocation of diesel cess to Gujarat for PMGSY during 2000-01 to 2005-06 was Rs. 310 crore, against which a sum of Rs. 284.87 crore was released.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Employment opportunities

*148. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had targeted creation of around five crore employment opportunities during the Tenth Five Year Plan period.

(b) if so, the steps taken to achieve the target; and

(c) the target achieved so far, sector-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir, The 10th Plan envisaged creation of around 3 crore employment opportunities in the normal growth process assuming

8% per annum growth of the economy and 2 crore similar opportunities through special employment generation programmes.

(b) Various initiatives taken by the Government, particularly in the industrial, infrastructure and services sector, have led to the economy registering an impressive growth of around 8.5%, 7.5% and 8.1% during the last three years. As a result, substantial employment opportunities were expected to be created. In addition to the growth based employment, Government is implementing various poverty alleviation and employment generation programmes both in the rural & urban areas. These include Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, Sampoorna Grameen Rojgar Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Prime Minister' Rojgar Yojana, Swarnajayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana etc. The latest initiative taken by the Government is the implementation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in the 200 identified districts of the country, which provides for at least 100 days of guaranteed employment in a financial year to every household in the rural areas and whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

(c) As per the Mid Term Appraisal document of the Planning Commission, no fresh quinquennial survey based data has become available since the formulation of the 10th Plan. Since the last such survey for which results are published, was conducted during 1999-2000, employment opportunities generated since 2000 are not available at present. In the absence of the results of 2004-05 survey, Planning Commission made an assessment of the employment generation during the 2002—2005 based on growth in output and observed elesticities in the recent past. As per the projections made, employment (on Current Daily Status Basis) has gone up from 344.68 million in 2001-02 to 362.64 million in 2004-05. State-wise and sector-wise details are not available.

Formation of Geographical Identification Registry

*149. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering formation of a Geographical Identification Registry for the country for region-specific agro-produce like Darjeeling Tea, Nagpur Oranges and Coorg Coffee;

(b) if so, the tentative list of products to be listed in the Registry;